

- c) **STAG Appraisal – Scottish Ferries Review** The outcome of the Easdale Transport link Appraisal depends upon the Scottish Ferries Review. The Chairman read out the timetable for this. After a number of preparatory stages, the public consultation is scheduled for February/March 2010 with the final report due in Summer 2010.
- d) **Local Roads** The Chairman said the road works on the B 844 north of Clachan Bridge had been an improvement, though not yet finished. Jean Campbell said we should acknowledge this. We will e-mail Graham Stone. However, we should maintain pressure for improvements to the road south of the Bridge as soon as contractors have finished work. The road is in a poor state in several places. We must establish if the £300k budget has been spent and find out what is planned for the road south of Clachan Bridge. There are concerns about traffic on the Bridge. A traffic control system may be needed here. The Secretary said a large pothole has appeared on the bend by the bungalows. Dr Hannah suggested white lining at the sides of the road. The Secretary said we had been lobbying for this and the road needs to be more clearly defined as a proper single lane road and not part single/part two-lane.
- e) **Health Matters** The Chairman read out Tina Jordan's report on the latest PPF's. Issues that arose from the latest emergency medical evacuation from Easdale Island were discussed and the PPF Chairman supported a request for NHS Managers to meet with the SAS to try to resolve matters. The Chairman also read out a letter from Drs Hannah and Barkham outlining the problems and explaining what may happen in emergency and non-emergency situations. Dr Hannah said this was being sent to all residents on Easdale Island and had already gone to the SAS, ferrymen, NHS 24, EIRPOA and Eilean Eisdal who are all happy with it.
He said this will not necessarily resolve all situations. Much depends on the SAS fulfilling their promises. However, the Oban Mountain Rescue Team are willing to be called and are used to evacuating casualties in difficult circumstances. Heather Chaplain asked if there had been any training for manning landing lights. Dr Hannah said this was up to the SAS but they are not committing to anything at the moment. However, the SAS is responsible for making alternative arrangements if their ambulance crews will not cross Easdale Sound.
The Chairman also said that at a PPF meeting on 7th September, concern was expressed that an alternative planning application had been made for the Harbour Bowl premises. This might mean it is not available for the new NHS dental facility.
- f) **Scottish Water Project** The Chairman said there were a number of concerns about the completion of this project and we had received correspondence about compliance with planning applications. He read correspondence we had sent to Scottish Water asking about plans for the Balvicar Bay pipeline, the use of a number of large sludge tankers and the landscaping of the main treatment works. He read the reply which stated that Balfour Beatty were reviewing the design of the outfall and would keep us informed. They said the tankers were emptying septic tanks (we doubt this because of their size) but the system has passed performance and sampling tests. With regard to the landscaping, the plans for bunding on two sides were changed because the whole site was lowered into the ground. It complies with the final planning application. Because of the lingering doubts and questions within the community, Mike Shaw said we should have a final public meeting with Scottish water so residents could discuss matters with them. The Secretary will arrange this.
Dr Hannah said that SEPA had not yet made a site visit to check the system. Any problems with parts of the system such as manholes are the responsibility of Scottish Water.

- g) **Planning Matters** The Chairman said that the Argyll and Bute Local Plan was adopted on 6th August 2009. Copies of the Plan are available in Reception, Kilmory, Lochgilhead and on the Council website:-
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/content/planning/development_policy/local_plan/adopted/

The Chairman read an e-mail from Mr Oversby asking why the Community Council had brushed aside a request for consultation about Eilean Eisdeal developments but were responding to the consultation process for Raera Windfarm. In our reply we explained that N Power were bound to consult with statutory bodies before making their planning application and we were responding to their request to do so. We had received no such request from Eilean Eisdeal. However, we have written to Eilean Eisdeal asking them to keep us informed of developments on Easdale Island and they replied that they would do this. Two people present said that two 'public meetings' had taken place since our letter – had we been advised? The Secretary had heard nothing. They also said that new plans were on the website but residents were unaware of them.

The Chairman read out correspondence about application 09/01256/PP (23 Balvicar). This was a revised application for 2 semi-detached cottages. We had not opposed the development but had suggested the orientation of the building be adjusted to ensure more privacy for nearby houses. This had been done and Mike Shaw said it was a good example of reasonable intervention by the Community Council producing a more satisfactory outcome for all concerned.

The Chairman read our correspondence about application 09/01033/DET – land south of Whinbank. We had expressed concern about the extension of the plot southwards into Countryside around Settlement and sought assurance that this was within the Local Plan. We have had no reply as yet and will follow this up.

The Chairman read out the three latest planning applications.

- h) **Raera Windfarm** The exhibition was held in the Hall on 8th September and more than 70 people attended. This was instigated by the Community Council as N Power were not planning to hold one here. However, they admitted that it was very successful and were glad they had held it. They sent us some wire-frame drawings from various points on Seil and a CD of the exhibition boards and montages shown at the exhibition. They will also let us have the results of the questionnaires. The Secretary explained that the Community Council, as a statutory consultee, would take a position on the development but could only do so when the planning application had been validated. In the meantime, we are canvassing personal opinions. At the moment, views appear to be split 50/50 for and against the development.

The meeting was asked if anyone had seen the N Power representative who was knocking on doors to answer questions. No-one had. We will follow up. PC Moore suggested we look at the Tiree website. They are forming plans for a large windfarm. Rose Wands wondered why we, in the UK, were still developing windpower when other countries were abandoning theirs on economic grounds.

- i) **Strategic Plan for Seil** Mike Shaw produced copies of his revised 'thought provoking' document. He explained the reason for the plans and said we need to find out what the community wants. This will be a long process and a sub-group would have to be set up as we did for the Conservation Areas Appraisal. CADISPA had advised the community to follow this route several years ago and we have their research document. The new Community Council will take this on. PC Moore suggested we contact Eleanor McKinnon at the Volunteer Centre who may be able to advise us and help resource funding.
- j) **Police Report** This item was added to the agenda as PC Moore had come to the meeting. Henry Tarbatt thanked him for the police presence at the weekend stone-

skimming event and which was bother-free except for some litter. PC Moore said there had been 8 incidents in the last few months, 2 of which were criminal cases. However, he said we had a good community here on Seil and Easdale. He said that the extra police due in Oban would help them increase their profile. He covers a large area at the moment and it is easy to be diverted to other incidents.. The Chairman thanked him for coming.

3 **Other Business**

- a) **Scottish Islands Federation** We have received an invitation to join this. The Chairman asked Henry Tarbatt – who is already involved – for his views. He thought there would be benefits and that we should do so. This will be deferred for a decision by the new Community Council.
- b) **Community Planning Partnership** Community Councils will be invited to attend meetings of local area Community Planning Groups from November. However, the Minutes of this latest meeting were 206 pages long. The new Community Council will have to decide how it will handle this commitment and which items would be relevant.
- c) **The National Conversation** The Chairman said this was coming to Oban on 5th October and tabled it for interest. This is the debate on Scotland’s future, including independence, and will take place from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Corran Halls.

4 **Documents to be tabled** A number of documents were tabled for general interest.

5 **Date, time and place of next meeting** It was suggested that the next meeting of the Community Council will take place on Tuesday 17th November 2009 at 7 p.m. in the Seil Island Hall.
This will be confirmed with the new Community Council and with the Returning Officer.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed:

Chairman:

Date:

Signed:

Secretary:

Date: